

the CARRIER

W6CX

the MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Volume XLI - Issue 5 - May 1994

Editor - Greydon H. Hicks, KC6SLE

Distribution: Jay Caldis, KT6Y, Walt Ebbett, KB6QIB,
and George Jones, KI6YK

The opinions expressed in the Carrier are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either the Board of Directors or membership of MDARC unless the author is a member of the MDARC Board of Directors and is speaking in an official capacity.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I find that the bureaucracy has assumed complete control of the club so Doris and I have taken off for Frankfurt and parts east, but will return in time for the next meeting just to see what is going on.

The last thirty days has brought out a bunch of ATV pizzazz. GERRY WHITE, WB6IZE, showed up at the March meeting with an outstanding array of ATV transmitters and receivers sending pictures across the room demonstrating some of the latest equipment. This was followed by ATV coverage of the radio contact by students at Country Club School with space shuttle Atlantis. This was orchestrated by their science teacher, BARRY ISSEKS, KE6YD, with the help of MIKE, KB6RMT, JIM, KC6SOE, MARY, AB6VI, JIM, KB6OH, ROB, KD6KGZ, and others. The event was extensively covered by the local newspapers and television. Congratulations.

Thanks also to PETE PERATA, KA6SHE, and RAY GASCHK, KD6BLS, for putting on an antenna measuring session followed by another session of installation of power connectors for anyone who wanted to conform to the ARES-RACES specifications.

Dick Schulze, AA6DL @ KC6SLE-1

Silent Key

H.T. Payne KB6WU

H.T. Payne KB6WU died of a massive heart attack on the morning of April 20, 1994. H.T. was a long time member of the MDARC. He was an Assistant Sysop on the KB6AML BBS. H.T. recently returned from a tour of the Far East as the conductor for the Youth Orchestra. H.T. is survived by his wife, Joanne WD6BEZ and his daughter, Dawn KC6NLT. All of us who knew H.T. will miss him.

Minutes of MDARC Director's Meeting

The Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors met on April 18, 1994, at the home of its secretary, Richard, WA5HQJ.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the CARRIER. Club Prez Dick, AA6DL, asked Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, to contact our insurance company concerning coverage for Field Day. Vice President John, KM6QX, reported on coming club programs. He advised that 20 people had signed up for the Pt. Reyes field trip.

Visiting club member George, WA6OFH, provided some cost figures for the July picnic. The matter of the

\$4.50 access fee to the park was discussed as was the possibility of arranging shuttle service. No action was taken. George said that he was looking for new games and President Dick offered the loan of some burlap sacks for a sack race.

Some discussion was held concerning the possibility of holding the raffle at the front of the room so that members could participate a little easier.

Bruce, KC6JMN, discussed possible ways of setting up a run-off of the 2 or 3 of the student's patches.

A discussion was held concerning our capital plans. It is expected that the committee will have a presentation at the next board meeting. Long term, on-going and one-shot programs will be presented.

The matter of possible loss of the 13 cm band was discussed and it was agreed that Gerry White was among the informed members of our club that might respond to Brad Wyatt's call. Secretary Richard was asked to call Gerry.

The meeting concluded at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee,
WA5HQJ
Secretary

MDARC April Membership Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club was called to order by President Dick, AA6DL at 8:00 PM on April 15, 1994. Approximately 80 members were in attendance. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as published in the CARRIER. Visitors were introduced and license upgrades were acknowledged.

Jay, KT6Y, gave the membership chairman's report on behalf of George, KI6YK. Membership remains at 550. Stan, WU6P, our treasurer reported that the balance in all accounts was \$16,056.17. President Dick, AA6DL, said that the committee formed to plan the long term use of our treasury was still in deliberation.

Vice President John, KM6QX, announced the forthcoming meetings and the field trip scheduled for April 23. Public service opportunities for the coming month or so were described by Joe, WA6DQN. Field Day Chairman Lauren, WA6CIE, reported that we had a potential conflict with a planned NASA exercise on the mountain on field day week end. It seems that NASA will be operating kilowatt transmitters on

6982.5 kHz and 14455 kHz. The NASA team is hoped to become involved with the MDARC Field Day and cooperate on operating hours. Lauren also said that he was still looking for band captains for 10, 20 and 80 meters. A planning meeting was scheduled for Andy's restaurant.

Ray, KD6BLS, advised the group that the antenna tune-up and connector party was scheduled for Sunday.

President Dick discussed the matter of the LAN update. Comments were heard from the floor about our putting up our own BBS. After some discussion the matter of a contribution to the existing system was put to the membership and the proposed contribution of \$250 was approved.

George, WB6OFH reminded the group of picnic plans for July 17, the third Sunday in July. He asked that members watch for more information in the CARRIER. Joyce, KD6PNO, modeled the new PACIFICON Staff shirt showing the new PACIFICON logo embroidered on the right side. Club members who participate in PACIFICON are eligible to purchase one or more of the shirts.

Barry, KC6WYA was recognized for his fine work in putting on Packet

classes for the past two years. Bruce, KC6JMN, asked that the membership look at the proposed logos that his art students had designed for the Club's consideration. VP John, KM6QX brought a large scale map of the county to the meeting and provided map pins so that each member could mark his location. An interesting study is planned.

The program for the evening was by Tracy Reese, WB6TMY. He told of the history of commercial CW on the West Coast and showed interesting photos of the station at Pt. Reyes Station. He told us that the call sign, KPH came from the original call letters, PH, which stood for "Palace Hotel", the location of the original station. For those who wish that they had a steel tower, he said the 300-ft ones at the station rusted out in 9 years. The station has been in continuous operation since 1904 and is now about fully automated using AMTOR like methods of communicating. It was a very interesting talk.

The meeting was concluded with the customary drawing of door prizes.

Respectfully submitted, Richard M. Shappee, WA5HQJ, Secretary MDARC

MAY MDARC MEETING SPEAKER

Steve Overacker, WA6HAM, will be the speaker at the May 20, MDARC meeting. Steve will tell us about packet life after Control-Z, i.e. how packet messages are routed around in the local East Bay Local Area Network, along the West Coast, through his HF gateway, up and down through satellites, and finally to grandmothers BBS in Switzerland(?). Steve is preparing a detailed map of the northern California packet network, and another showing the other HF gateways around the nation his system exchanges messages with, 24 hours per day.

John Stuart, KM6QX, MDARC VP

MDARC PUBLIC SERVICE POSITION OPEN

Regretfully, Dave Hatch, KA6AOR, will not, due to job and personal commitments, be able to continue as head of the MDARC public service position. MDARC would like to thank Dave for all his hard work and commitment to fulfilling this position this year.

So, opportunity knocks for a lucky MDARC member. The position requires responding to requests for communications

support from public service groups. You need to be available either at work or home to take these calls and coordinate the club's response with MDARC's Board of Directors and membership.

If your interested, please contact either President Dick Schulze or Vice President John Stuart. If you volunteer now you'll only need serve for the next seven months rather than the normal twelve. What a bargain.

Pt. Reyes Field Trip Huge Success: Seven (?) Stations Visited

9:15 Saturday morning, April 23, I arrived in Point Reyes Station and spotted a row of HAMS (it was obvious) standing under the eaves of an old building, out of the light drizzle that had started to fall. Nineteen MDARC members had come to Point Reyes to tour the commercial short wave radio stations described by our April 15 meeting speaker, Tracy Reese, WB6TMY.

At 9:30 Tracy led us on a 20 minute drive out to the KPH receiving site and operations building. KPH communicates with ships at sea using telegraphy and SITOR telex. A few of the many fascinating things we "discovered" were their use of Kenwood R-5000 receivers (lots of them), four-wire open feedlines from the antennas (Rx only), and the use of punched paper tape to transfer the SITOR messages to land-line telex machines! There were also dozens of personal computers racked up for local operations and remote control of a sister station on Cape Cod.

Next we drove next door to KMI, the ATT ship-to-shore telephone station.

MDARC member Greg Sparacino, N6PUO, works there and gave us a detailed tour. With fifteen foot high racks of computer controlled receivers, and remote control of twenty 10,000 watt transmitters located near Dixon, this control center provides phone-patch service for ships and islands in the Pacific.

A 40 minute drive down to Bolinas brought us to an enormous building containing 23 transmitters for KPH. Along the way, a few of us (I won't mention KB6QIB's and N6FER's names) discovered that the residents of Bolinas do indeed, remove all road signs for the Bolinas turn-off! Tracy showed us all of the equipment, his noon-hour amateur station, and a unique collection of "spare parts."

After touring three radio stations, it was appropriate to have lunch at the Station Cafe where a private dining room had been reserved for us. Good food and lots to talk about, but we had more to see. So 45 minutes later we were off to the Marconi Convention Center.

Wayne Zion, Manager of the Marconi Conference Center, gave us an unforgettable tour of this historic location. From the hotel where Marconi's unmarried male employees lived, to the old power house (now a high-tech conference room), to the hill top site where the mile long antenna once started, to the station's operations center (now a residence), we saw a center for communications that has spanned 80 years. Along the way we even heard a few stories about the previous owner, too weird to repeat. Today the site is part of the State Park system, and worth the trip just to see the photographs of early radio stations on the office walls.

Those who toured and survived to tell you more, include; Walt KB6QIB, Bill N6FER, Don KD6VZX, Bob KD6ZXX, Glen KC6TNF, Dawn KD6ERW, Tom WA6NYP, Marriott N6RFQ, Loren N6AYU, Randy KD6RZR, Ray N6RBY, Dan K6PJY, Lyle KB6DOW, and myself,.....John Stuart KM6QX, MDARC VP.

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TRAILRIDES MAY AND JUNE 1994

The Spring Trailride of the Concord - Mt. Diablo Trailride Association will be held on April 30 and May 1 from the Clubhouse on the slope of Mt. Diablo southeast of Clayton. Additional operators are needed, especially for Sunday, May 1. Call Dave Hatch KA6AOR, 830-9045 to volunteer.

Saturday, May 7, the International Arabian Horse Association is holding a ride at the Del Valle Regional Park southeast of Livermore. Eight operators will be needed. One of these will operate from a boat on the reservoir! Further details of the operation will be given over the MDARC General Net when received from the ride sponsors.

There will be endurance rides from the staging area at the end of School Road, off Finlay road in the Tassajera Creek area southeast of Mt. Diablo on June 4 and June 5. (Two different groups). Six operators will be needed each day.

Sign up for any or all of these with Dave Hatch at 830-9045.

Joe - WA6DQN

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2210 Livingston St.
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Rich WA6WYS, Mgr.
1-800 at 23rd Ave. ramp

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8400 E. 14th Ave., #9
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Joe, KD8GA, Mgr.

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
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Tom, K4MK, Mgr.
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SUNNYVALE, CA 94086
510 Lawrence Expy., #102
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Tom, K8LLUC, Mgr.
Lawrence Expy.,
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Mark, K4VQD, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi.
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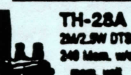
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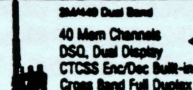
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SUNOL TRAILRIDE

On the morning of Saturday, April 9, after more than half an inch of rain the previous evening, seven early rising hams from the MDARC made their way south to Sunol Regional Wilderness to provide communications for the International Arabian Horse Association trailride. It was still raining when we arrived, long before dawn. The muddy road up to the ride=camp was so slick that even 4WD vehicles had trouble on it. Gradually the apparent confusion was sorted out, operators were reassigned to various vehicles and locations, and the ride got under way at 0748 rather than 0600.

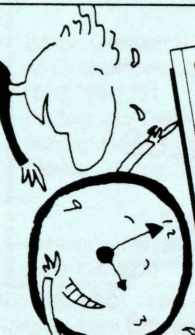
Dick Schultze, AA6DL, accompanied the Ride Director and reports that the ride was scary at times as the carryall slipped off the sidling McGuire Peaks road. John Stuart, KM6QX, encountered similar difficulties. That checkpoint was moved to a place accessible to motor vehicles. Terry Dearborn, W6HPC, and Craig, KE6DEA, and Nick, KE6DIA, Schirato reached Cerro Este without difficulty. Craig and Nick provided essential relay service for stations in various low level sites throughout the day. Simplex propagatioopn was variable and "spooky". Alan Meacham, KK6UY, operated from base camp till mid-morning, then was sent up the Alameda Creek Road to various locked gates. Joe Gregory, WA6DQN, watched the road crossing at Welsh Creek.

The rain let up about the time the ride started, and there were no serious problems with the riders. The afternoon route and check points had to be completely revised to avoid the steeper trails. Alan was sent to the turning point at the eastern end of the ride, and John kept an eye on one of the several locked gates along the route. Afternoon sunshine dried the surface considerably and the ride ended in fair weather. There were no calls for the ambulance.

The unsatisfactory conditions made radio extremely important on this ride, permitting the ride director to give direction to assistants at various remote points along the route, and to completely reorganize the afternoon plan and location of check points. The ride was successful and our help was greatly appreciated.

Joe - WA6DQN

To help relieve the stress of constant rushing, try the suggestions in this article.



Rush job calendar

1. Every job is a rush. Everyone wants his job yesterday. With this calendar, someone can order his work on the 7th and have it delivered on the 3rd.
2. Everyone wants his job on Friday so there are three Fridays in every week.
3. There are seven days at the end of the month for those end-of-the-month jobs.
4. There will be no first-of-the-month bills to be paid, as there isn't any 1st. The 10th and the 25th have been omitted also in case you have been asked to pay bills on one of those days.

FRI	FRI	THU	WED	TUE	MON
8	7	6	5	4	3
16	15	14	13	12	11
23	22	21	20	19	18
31	30	29	28	27	26
38	37	36	35	34	33

Fairfield Ham Exams 1994 Schedule

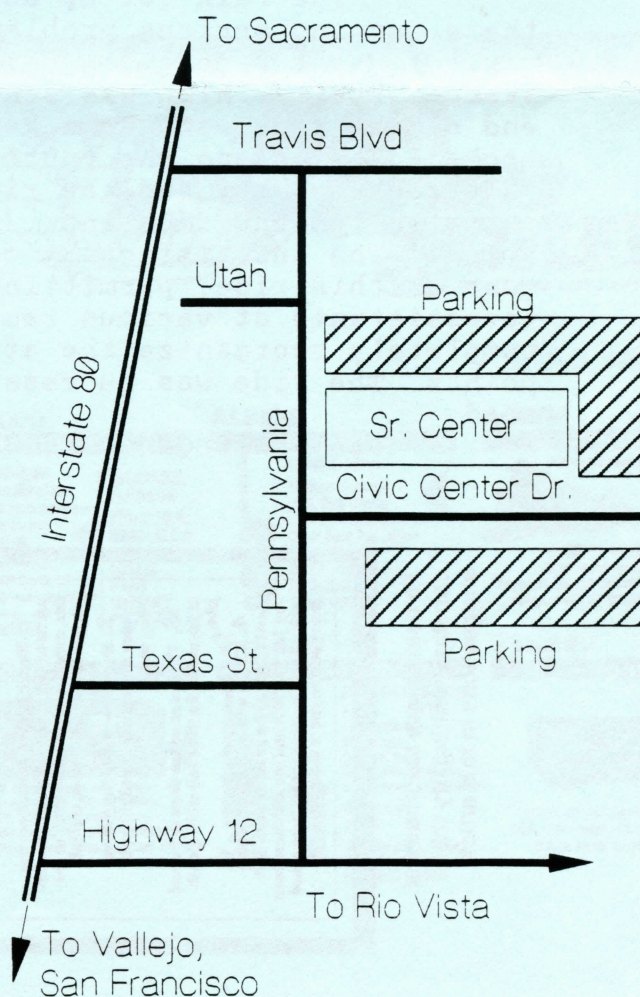


Where? Fairfield Senior Center - 1200 Civic Center Dr., Fairfield, CA
 When? The Last Saturday of Every Month - Testing 9:00 AM to Noon
 (No exams started after 11:30 AM)

January 29	April 30	July 30	October 29
February 26	May 28	August 27	November 26
March 26	June 25	September 24	December 17

- ★ Advanced registration **NOT** required
- ★ Novice thru Extra ★ No-Code Tech ★ Waivers
- ★ All tests given simultaneously ★ No waiting
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- ★ Code exams on individual machines
- ★ Retesting allowed for failures
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- ★ Spacious free parking

**For Information Contact
 Jerry, AA6NO, Davis, CA
 (916) 662-0801**



MDARC/RRRG QUAKE-NET INSTRUCTIONS

Immediately after feeling an earthquake, listen to 147.060/+(100 pl).

When frequency is clear, quickly and clearly transmit in the following sequence::

LOCATION, OBSERVATION, NAME and CALL SIGN.

If a Hospital or ARES/RACES net control is established, relinquish use of repeater and break only with urgent traffic using your CALL SIGN and LOCATION or CITY

**The Mount Diablo Amateur
Radio Club**

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Meetings:

Third Friday Each Month
8:00 PM / 2000 hours
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

1994 Club Officers**President:**

Dick Schulze, AA6DL
(510)935-5000

Vice President:

John Stuart, KM6QX
(510)283-2797

Secretary:

Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ
(510)682-1644

Treasurer:

Stan Christian, WU6P
(510)672-0330

Membership Chairman:

George Jones, KI6YK
(510)837-9316

Emergency Coordinator:

Bruce Smith, KC6JMN
(510)934-1735

Directors:

Tom Seabury, KC6SYG
(510)837-4433
Larry Gansz, KB2GV
(510)356-2411

MDARC-PACIFICON HOT LINE

(510)932-6125

**Contra Costa County
ARES/RACES Nets**

Thursdays, 1900 Hours

Central County - 145.680/s

Jim Brunk, N6BHX
(510)372-8248

East County - 146.535/s

Jim Tittle, KC6SOE
(510)432-3220

South County - 146.355/+(100 pl)

George Jones, KI6YK
(510)837-9316

West County - 145.110/-

Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR
(510)233-5034

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours

Meeting of all County
ARES/RACES Nets

**The Rocky Ridge Repeater
Group**

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Next Meeting:

Third Wednesday Of Odd Months
8:00 PM / 2000 hours
Stonebrook Convalescent Center
Concord Blvd., Concord, CA

Club Officers**Chairman:**

Dwane McGlothlin, N6SPX
(510)798-2868

Technical Chairman:

Mike Burke, KB6RMT
(510)682-7296

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RRRG Nets

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Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y
ATV Net - Thursdays
2000 Hours, Net Control:
Mike Burke, KB6RMT,
Alt.: Don Smith, W6NKF,
Technical Net - Sundays
1930 Hours, 147.060/+(100 pl)
Net Control: Jeff Jones, AB6MB

**Contra Costa County
Emergency Services HF Net**

First Thursday following

first Wednesday,

2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz

Net Control:

Hank Berriman, W6ZHY, AEC

Carrier

Editor: Greydon H. Hicks, KC6SLE
4517 Shellflower Ct., Concord 94518
(510)798-1251

Folding: Jay Caldis, KT6Y

Mailing: Walt Ebbett, KB6QIB

Labels: George Jones, KI6YK

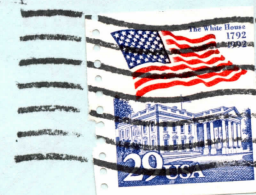
Sheriff's Amateur Radio Communications Team

Clay Yale, N6YBQ
(510)228-8223

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). This publication is open to all members of MDARC and it is the policy of this Editor to publish all articles submitted by the membership as long as such articles are not obscene, pertain to Amateur Radio, are of interest to the members of MDARC and space is available. Articles are due by the first of each month and are accepted on a first come, first in basis. Articles should be submitted by packet, KC6SLE @ WA6AEO.#NOCAL.USA.NA or packet mailbox, KC6SLE-1 or by modem to the Doug Smith's No Name Yet bulletin board, File area #23, at (510) 827-5714 or delivered to the Editor in ASCII format on either 5.25" or 3.5" computer disk. The standard font is Arial 9 point. The Editor's address can be found in the Carrier or MDARC Membership Directory. Articles published in the Carrier may be reproduced provided that such reproduction credits both MDARC and the author of the article. Copyrighted articles will not be accepted for publication in the Carrier.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College Livermore	First Sunday Each Month All Year, 7 AM to Noon
RACES Monthly Meeting	State OEC, Civic Dr. Pleasant Hill	First Wednesday Every Month, 7:30 PM
MDARC General Membership Meeting	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Ln., Lafayette	Friday May 20, 1994
Deadline for Carrier Articles	NA	Wednesday, June 1, 1994
MDARC T-Hunt	Location TBA	Canceled until further notice
RRRG Balloon Committee	Stonebrook Convalescent Center 4367 Concord Blvd., Concord	To be announced
Concord VEC Exams Gene, WW6H	Consolidated Fire Training Center 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord	Sunday, June 5, 1994
Fairfield HAM Exams Jerry, AA6NO, (916) 662-0801	Fairfield Senior Center 1200 Civic Drive, Fairfield	Last Saturday of each month 0900 to noon
MDARC Picnic	Lafayette Reservoir	July 17, 1994
RRRG General Membership Meeting	Stonebrook Convalescent Center 4367 Concord Blvd., Concord	May 18, 1994, 8:00 PM

The Carrier
a newsletter of the
Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523



FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEXT MDARC MEETING IS MAY 20, 1994
NEXT RRRG MEETING IS May 18, 1994

